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Kay Read: A day in the life of an Aztec midwife | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/kay_read_a_day_in_the_life_of_an_aztec_midwife

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sheen

n. a lustrous or glossy shine or surface finish; a glow or radiance that emanates from or suggests brightness or brilliance

synonym : shine, gloss, luster

(1) metallic **sheen**, (2) silky **sheen**

The polished silver vase had a bright **sheen** in the sunlight.

midwife

n. a person trained to assist women during childbirth and to provide care for the mother and baby

synonym : obstetrician, gynecologist, accoucheuse

(1) professional **midwife**, (2) serve as **midwife**

The clinical **midwife** assisted with the delivery of the baby.

fertile

adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive

synonym : fruitful, productive, rich

(1) **fertile** ground, (2) **fertile** market

Herbs require **fertile** soil in a sunny, sheltered location.

patron

n. a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.

synonym : contributor, sponsor, supporter

(1) the **patron** saint of a place, (2) political **patron**
They have been a **patron** of this restaurant for many years.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym : masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

apprentice

n. a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves

synonym : learner, trainee, protégé

(1) **apprentice** carpenter, (2) a young **apprentice**

He took on an **apprentice** to teach him the trade.

gourd

n. large fruit with a hard, often ornamentally-shaped shell that is commonly used for food, decoration, or musical instruments

synonym : calabash, squash, pumpkin

(1) **gourd** soup, (2) decorative **gourd**

She carved a unique design into the **gourd** to create a decorative piece for her home.

equinox

n. either of two times of the year, usually in March and September, when the sun crosses the celestial equator, resulting in equal amounts of daylight and darkness worldwide

synonym : solstice, equinoctial point

(1) autumn **equinox**, (2) **equinox** solstice

The vernal **equinox** marks the beginning of spring when day and night are approximately equal in length.

hearty

adj. characterized by vigor, strength, or robustness; showing warmth or enthusiasm of feeling; large and filling (referring to a meal or portions of food)

synonym : wholesome, robust, healthy

(1) **hearty** meal, (2) **hearty** laughter

The **hearty** soup warmed us up on the cold winter day.

marigold

n. a hardy annual flower with yellow or orange petals, commonly grown in gardens for its attractive appearance and ability to deter pests due to their scent

synonym : golden flower, calendula

(1) **marigold** flower, (2) **marigold** tea

I brought a bouquet of **marigolds** to decorate my friend's housewarming party.

moss

n. a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks

synonym : plant, foliage, greenery

(1) green **moss**, (2) **moss** garden

Moss grows in damp, shaded areas and is often found on the forest floor.

expel

v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country

synonym : deport, oust, dislodge

(1) **expel** him from his native country, (2) **expel** air from the lungs

He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly **expelled** the smoke.

jade

n. a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse

synonym : gemstone, stone, mineral

(1) a **jade** accessory, (2) decorated with **jade**

The **jade** sculpture was worth a fortune.

greenstone

n. a type of stone characterized by its greenish hue, typically made of minerals such as epidote, chlorite, or actinolite

synonym : rock, stone, boulder

(1) **greenstone** belt, (2) **greenstone** carving

A **greenstone** pendant is a popular piece of jewelry in many cultures.

torment

n. unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress;
(verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering

synonym: pain, suffering, agony

(1) **torment** of jealousy, (2) economic **torment**

The torturers inflicted great **torment** upon the prisoners.

jaguar

n. a large animal of the cat family that has a yellowish-brown coat with black spots, mainly found in parts of Central and South America

synonym: cat, feline, panther

(1) a wild **jaguar**, (2) a female **jaguar**

Humans have developed the **jaguar's** habitat over several decades.

stoke

v. to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict

synonym: stir up, fuel, ignite

(1) **stoke** a fire, (2) **stoke** passions

The artist used bright colors and bold brushstrokes to **stoke** a sense of vibrancy in their painting.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym: braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym: health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

culmination

n. the peak highest point or climax of something, especially happening after a long time

synonym: climax, completion, ending

(1) the **culmination** of her ambition, (2) **culmination** altitude

Their achievements stand as a **culmination** of centuries of development.

behead

v. to cut off the head of a person or animal

synonym: decapitate, execute, chop off

(1) **behead** a prisoner, (2) **behead** several hostages

The king ordered the executioner to **behead** the traitor.

symbolize

v. to represent or stand for something else, particularly an abstract concept or idea; to be an emblem or sign of something

synonym: represent, signify, emblemize

(1) **symbolize** hope, (2) **symbolize** freedom

In many cultures, the color white **symbolizes** purity and innocence.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

reborn

adj. brought back to life in a new form or with a new nature

synonym: regenerated, revived, renewed

(1) **reborn** soul, (2) **reborn** identity

After recovering from her illness, she felt like a **reborn** person with a new perspective on life.

preside

v. to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization

synonym: chair, lead, control

(1) **preside** at the piano, (2) **preside** over ceremony
The **president** will preside over the meeting tomorrow.

induct

v. to formally admit someone to a job or position of authority; to officially introduce someone to an organization or group, or beliefs or ideas

synonym: enlist, recruit, conscript

(1) **induct** them into military service, (2) **induct** a clergyman to a benefice

We were **inducted** into the honor society.

Session 2: Spelling

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|------------------------|--|
| 1. eq____x solstice | <i>n.</i> either of two times of the year, usually in March and September, when the sun crosses the celestial equator, resulting in equal amounts of daylight and darkness worldwide |
| 2. a female ja____r | <i>n.</i> a large animal of the cat family that has a yellowish-brown coat with black spots, mainly found in parts of Central and South America |
| 3. ma____ld tea | <i>n.</i> a hardy annual flower with yellow or orange petals, commonly grown in gardens for its attractive appearance and ability to deter pests due to their scent |
| 4. st__e passions | <i>v.</i> to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict |
| 5. a wild ja____r | <i>n.</i> a large animal of the cat family that has a yellowish-brown coat with black spots, mainly found in parts of Central and South America |
| 6. sy____ze freedom | <i>v.</i> to represent or stand for something else, particularly an abstract concept or idea; to be an emblem or sign of something |
| 7. c__w a stick of gum | <i>v.</i> to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it |

ANSWERS: 1. equinox, 2. jaguar, 3. marigold, 4. stoke, 5. jaguar, 6. symbolize, 7. chew

- | | | |
|--|------|--|
| 8. ex__l air from the lungs | v. | to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country |
| 9. autumn eq____x | n. | either of two times of the year, usually in March and September, when the sun crosses the celestial equator, resulting in equal amounts of daylight and darkness worldwide |
| 10. ma____ld flower | n. | a hardy annual flower with yellow or orange petals, commonly grown in gardens for its attractive appearance and ability to deter pests due to their scent |
| 11. sy____ze hope | v. | to represent or stand for something else, particularly an abstract concept or idea; to be an emblem or sign of something |
| 12. decorated with j__e | n. | a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse |
| 13. pr____e at the piano | v. | to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization |
| 14. he____y laughter | adj. | characterized by vigor, strength, or robustness; showing warmth or enthusiasm of feeling; large and filling (referring to a meal or portions of food) |
| 15. be____d several hostages | v. | to cut off the head of a person or animal |
| 16. in____t a clergyperson to a benefice | v. | to formally admit someone to a job or position of authority; to officially introduce someone to an organization or group, or beliefs or ideas |

ANSWERS: 8. expel, 9. equinox, 10. marigold, 11. symbolize, 12. jade, 13. preside, 14. hearty, 15. behead, 16. induct

17. app_____ce carpenter *n.* a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves
18. green m__s *n.* a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
19. gre_____ne belt *n.* a type of stone characterized by its greenish hue, typically made of minerals such as epidote, chlorite, or actinolite
20. pr_____e over ceremony *v.* to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization
21. be____d a prisoner *v.* to cut off the head of a person or animal
22. m__s garden *n.* a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
23. silky sh__n *n.* a lustrous or glossy shine or surface finish; a glow or radiance that emanates from or suggests brightness or brilliance
24. serve as mi_____e *n.* a person trained to assist women during childbirth and to provide care for the mother and baby
25. re____n soul *adj.* brought back to life in a new form or with a new nature
26. a young app_____ce *n.* a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves
27. the cul_____on of her ambition *n.* the peak highest point or climax of something, especially happening after a long time

ANSWERS: 17. apprentice, 18. moss, 19. greenstone, 20. preside, 21. behead, 22. moss, 23. sheen, 24. midwife, 25. reborn, 26. apprentice, 27. culmination

28. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
29. the wel_____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
30. ex__l him from his native country *v.* to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
31. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
32. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
33. economic to_____t *n.* unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering
34. the pa____n saint of a place *n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
35. a j__e accessory *n.* a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse
36. cul_____on altitude *n.* the peak highest point or climax of something, especially happening after a long time
37. st__e a fire *v.* to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict

ANSWERS: 28. chew, 29. well-being, 30. expel, 31. afterward, 32. afterward, 33. torment, 34. patron, 35. jade, 36. culmination, 37. stoke

38. political pa___n *n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
39. re___n identity *adj.* brought back to life in a new form or with a new nature
40. fe____e ground *adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
41. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
42. fe____e market *adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
43. in___t them into military service *v.* to formally admit someone to a job or position of authority; to officially introduce someone to an organization or group, or beliefs or ideas
44. professional mi____e *n.* a person trained to assist women during childbirth and to provide care for the mother and baby
45. he___y meal *adj.* characterized by vigor, strength, or robustness; showing warmth or enthusiasm of feeling; large and filling (referring to a meal or portions of food)
46. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

ANSWERS: 38. patron, 39. reborn, 40. fertile, 41. well-being, 42. fertile, 43. induct, 44. midwife, 45. hearty, 46. weave

47. gre_____ne carving *n.* a type of stone characterized by its greenish hue, typically made of minerals such as epidote, chlorite, or actinolite
48. metallic sh__n *n.* a lustrous or glossy shine or surface finish; a glow or radiance that emanates from or suggests brightness or brilliance
49. we__e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
50. go__d soup *n.* large fruit with a hard, often ornamentally-shaped shell that is commonly used for food, decoration, or musical instruments
51. decorative go__d *n.* large fruit with a hard, often ornamentally-shaped shell that is commonly used for food, decoration, or musical instruments
52. to_____t of jealousy *n.* unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering

ANSWERS: 47. greenstone, 48. sheen, 49. weave, 50. gourd, 51. gourd, 52. torment

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I brought a bouquet of _____ to decorate my friend's housewarming party.
n. a hardy annual flower with yellow or orange petals, commonly grown in gardens for its attractive appearance and ability to deter pests due to their scent
2. In many cultures, the color white _____ purity and innocence.
v. to represent or stand for something else, particularly an abstract concept or idea; to be an emblem or sign of something
3. The torturers inflicted great _____ upon the prisoners.
n. unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering
4. The _____ sculpture was worth a fortune.
n. a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse
5. She carved a unique design into the _____ to create a decorative piece for her home.
n. large fruit with a hard, often ornamentally-shaped shell that is commonly used for food, decoration, or musical instruments
6. Herbs require _____ soil in a sunny, sheltered location.
adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
7. A _____ pendant is a popular piece of jewelry in many cultures.
n. a type of stone characterized by its greenish hue, typically made of minerals such as epidote, chlorite, or actinolite

ANSWERS: 1. marigolds, 2. symbolizes, 3. torment, 4. jade, 5. gourd, 6. fertile, 7. greenstone

8. Humans have developed the _____ habitat over several decades.
n. a large animal of the cat family that has a yellowish-brown coat with black spots, mainly found in parts of Central and South America
9. He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly _____ the smoke.
v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
10. _____ grows in damp, shaded areas and is often found on the forest floor.
n. a small, soft plant that grows in a low, compact layer, often on the ground or on rocks
11. The _____ soup warmed us up on the cold winter day.
adj. characterized by vigor, strength, or robustness; showing warmth or enthusiasm of feeling; large and filling (referring to a meal or portions of food)
12. The _____ will preside over the meeting tomorrow.
v. to be in charge of or to lead a meeting, ceremony, or organization
13. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
14. They have been a _____ of this restaurant for many years.
n. a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
15. We were _____ into the honor society.
v. to formally admit someone to a job or position of authority; to officially introduce someone to an organization or group, or beliefs or ideas

ANSWERS: 8. jaguar's, 9. expelled, 10. Moss, 11. hearty, 12. president, 13. well-being, 14. patron, 15. inducted

16. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.

adv. after the time mentioned

17. My dog loves to _____ on bones.

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

18. The polished silver vase had a bright _____ in the sunlight.

n. a lustrous or glossy shine or surface finish; a glow or radiance that emanates from or suggests brightness or brilliance

19. The vernal _____ marks the beginning of spring when day and night are approximately equal in length.

n. either of two times of the year, usually in March and September, when the sun crosses the celestial equator, resulting in equal amounts of daylight and darkness worldwide

20. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

21. He took on an _____ to teach him the trade.

n. a person who works for and learns from a skilled employer to become a skilled worker themselves

22. The artist used bright colors and bold brushstrokes to _____ a sense of vibrancy in their painting.

v. to add fuel to the fire or furnace; to increase the intensity or strength of something, such as an emotion or conflict

23. The king ordered the executioner to _____ the traitor.

v. to cut off the head of a person or animal

ANSWERS: 16. afterward, 17. chew, 18. sheen, 19. equinox, 20. weaves, 21. apprentice, 22. stoke, 23. behead

24. After recovering from her illness, she felt like a _____ person with a new perspective on life.

adj. brought back to life in a new form or with a new nature

25. Their achievements stand as a _____ of centuries of development.

n. the peak highest point or climax of something, especially happening after a long time

26. The clinical _____ assisted with the delivery of the baby.

n. a person trained to assist women during childbirth and to provide care for the mother and baby

ANSWERS: 24. reborn, 25. culmination, 26. midwife